

ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN®

ISSUE

95

MORBIUS: PART 1



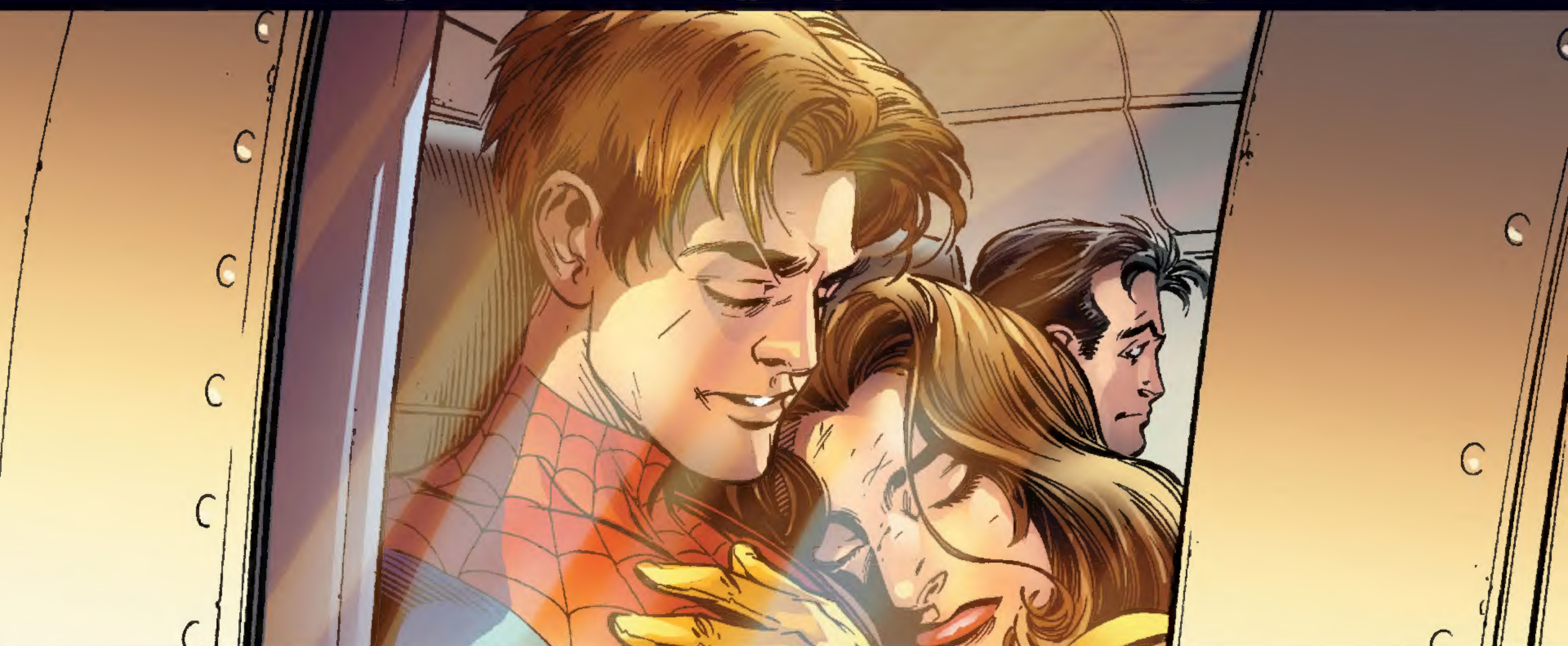
BENDIS
BAGLEY
DELL
PALMIOTTI

PREVIOUSLY IN ULTIMATE SPIDER-MAN...

The bite of a genetically-altered spider granted high school student Peter Parker incredible, arachnid-like powers! When a burglar killed his beloved Uncle Ben, a grief-stricken Peter vowed to use his amazing abilities to protect his fellow man. He learned the invaluable lesson that with great power must also come great responsibility...

Having recently broken up with his girlfriend, Mary Jane, Peter started dating Kitty Pryde, member of the super-powered mutant team, the X-Men. Kitty—whose identity as the super hero Shadowcat is known to the world—tried to create as normal a relationship as circumstances would allow.

Unfortunately, Spidey and the X-Men were caught in a battle on the island of Krakoa, which was broadcast on TV and endlessly copied on the Internet. The video showed a clear romantic relationship between Shadowcat and Spider-Man...meaning that, without revealing Peter's secret identity, Kitty couldn't also be dating Peter...



MORBIUS

Part 1 of 2

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Correction: Last issue, inks were by John Dell and Mark Morales



Months ago

And what do we have tonight for the fledgling young Spider-Man who has taken to talking to himself?



TAP
TAP
TAP
TAP

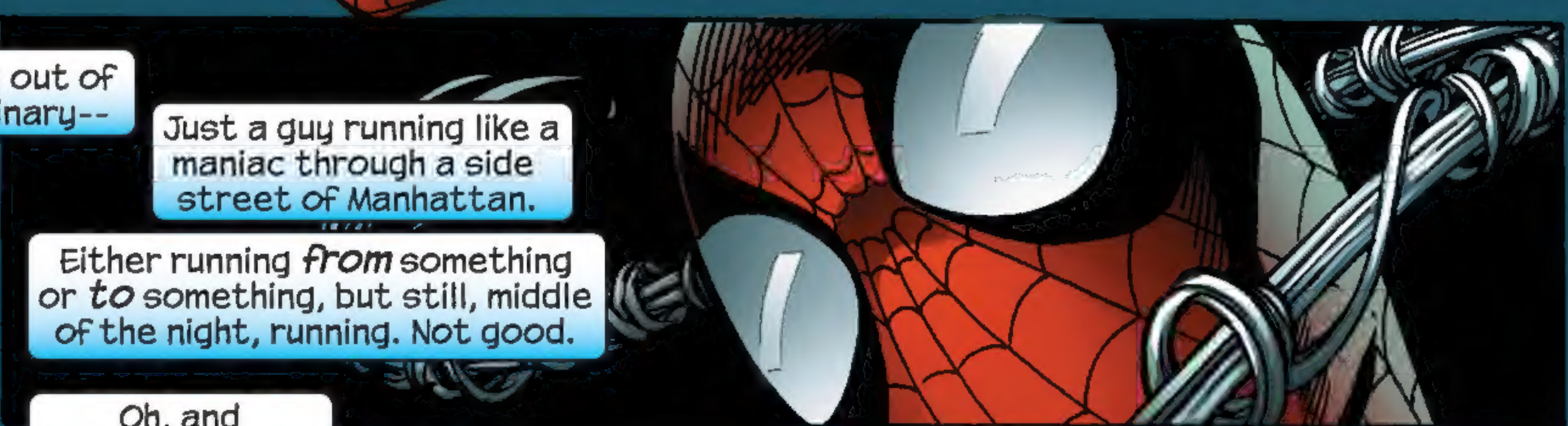
Nothing out of the ordinary--

Just a guy running like a maniac through a side street of Manhattan.

Either running *from* something or *to* something, but still, middle of the night, running. Not good.

Oh, and there's this other guy chasing the first guy...

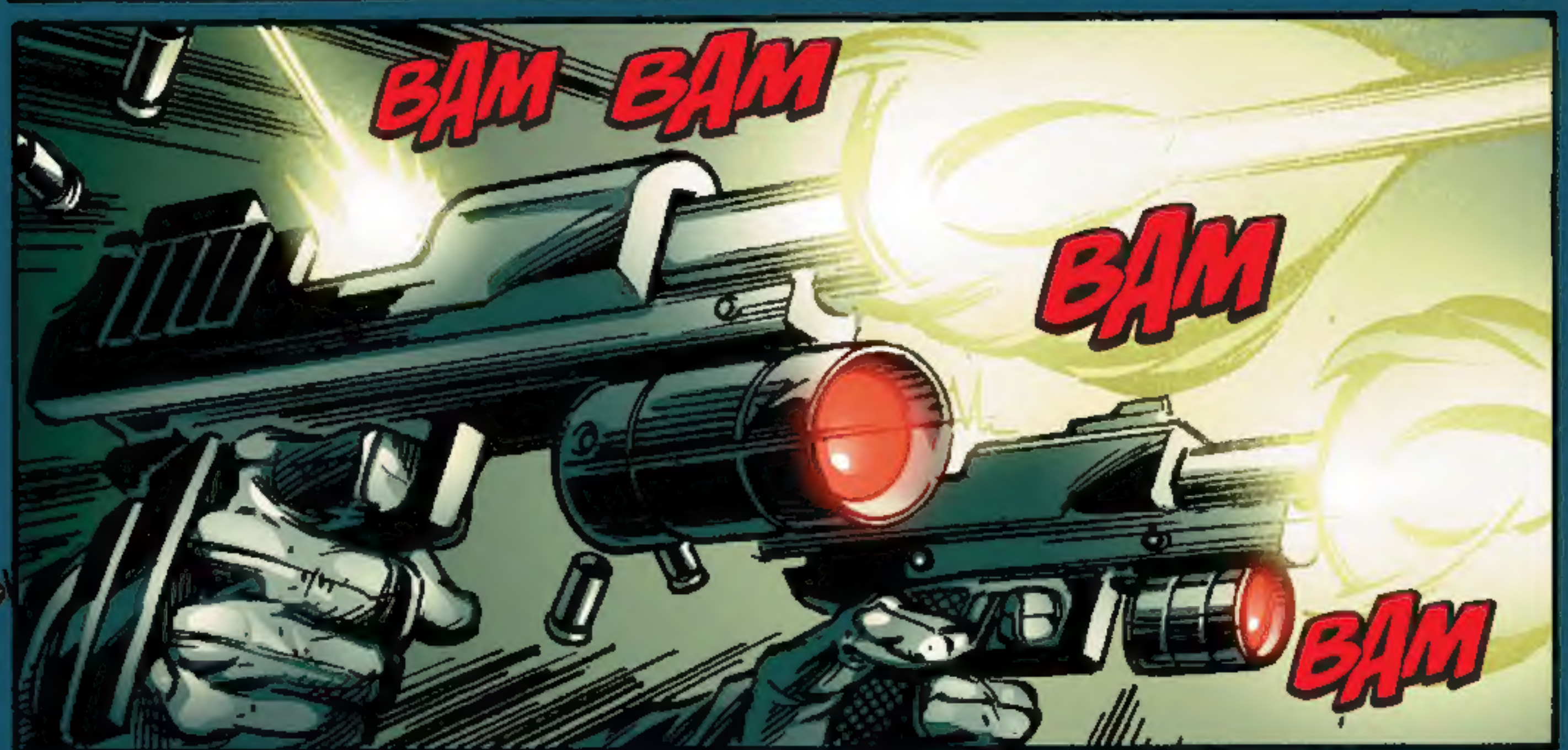
With the guns and the chasing...



So here we go again with that whole "with great power must also come some idiot shooting at my head!"



THWIP



BAM BAM

BAM

BAM



BAM BAM

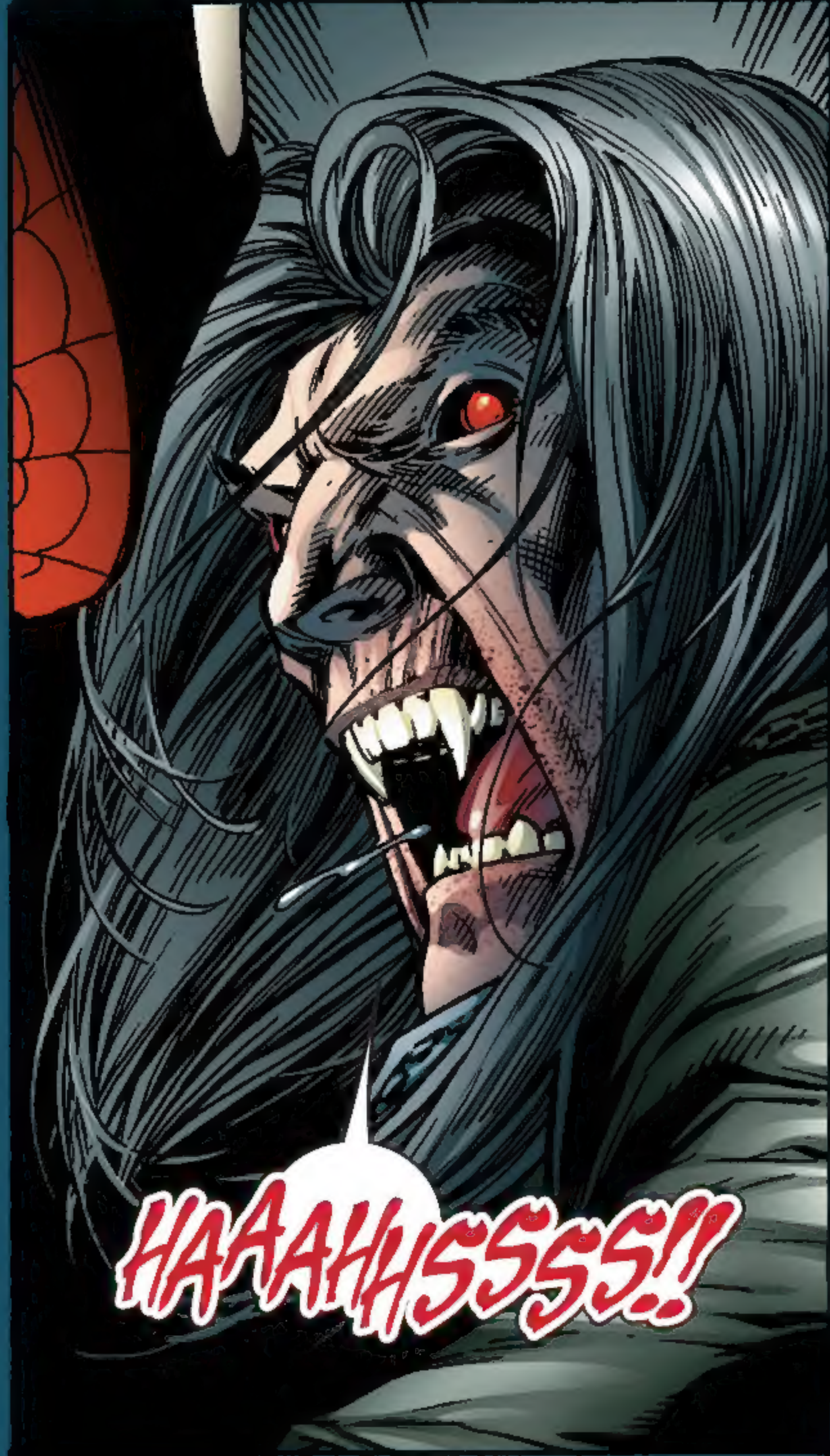
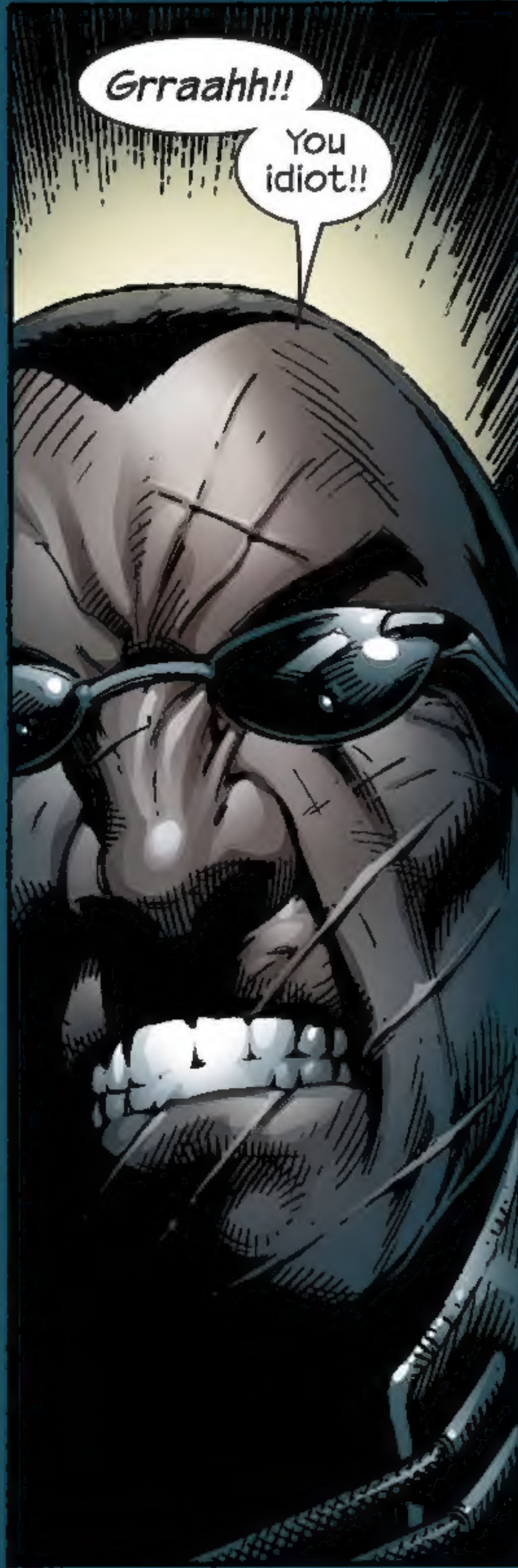
And the shooting.



Whoops!
Sorry about that!

SMACK

Oof!!





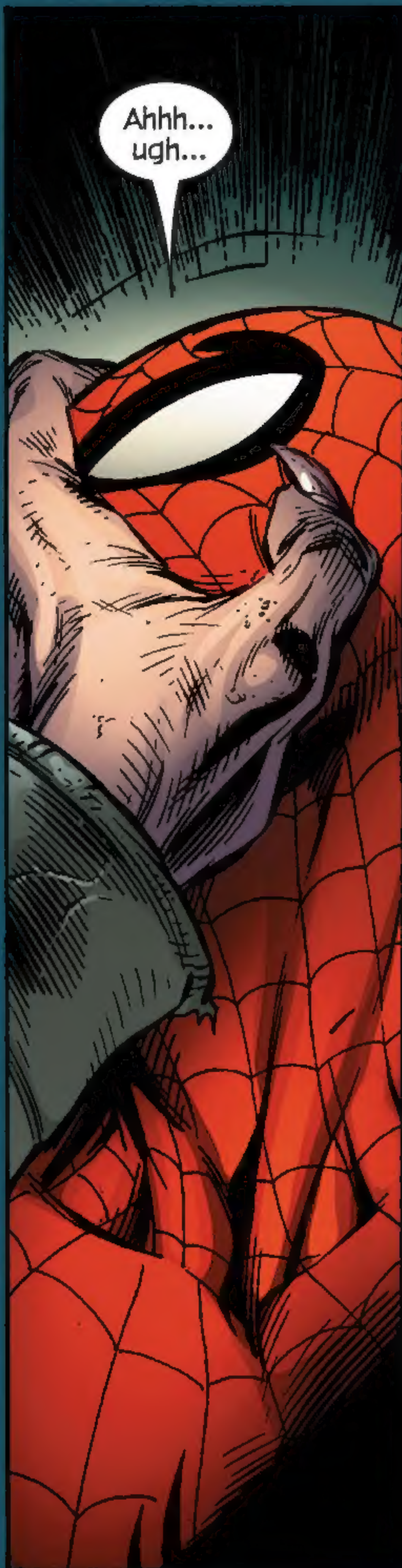
Oh my God...

WHFUMP

Oof!



HAAHHHSSSS!!



Ahhh... ugh...



AAAHHEE!!!

THUK

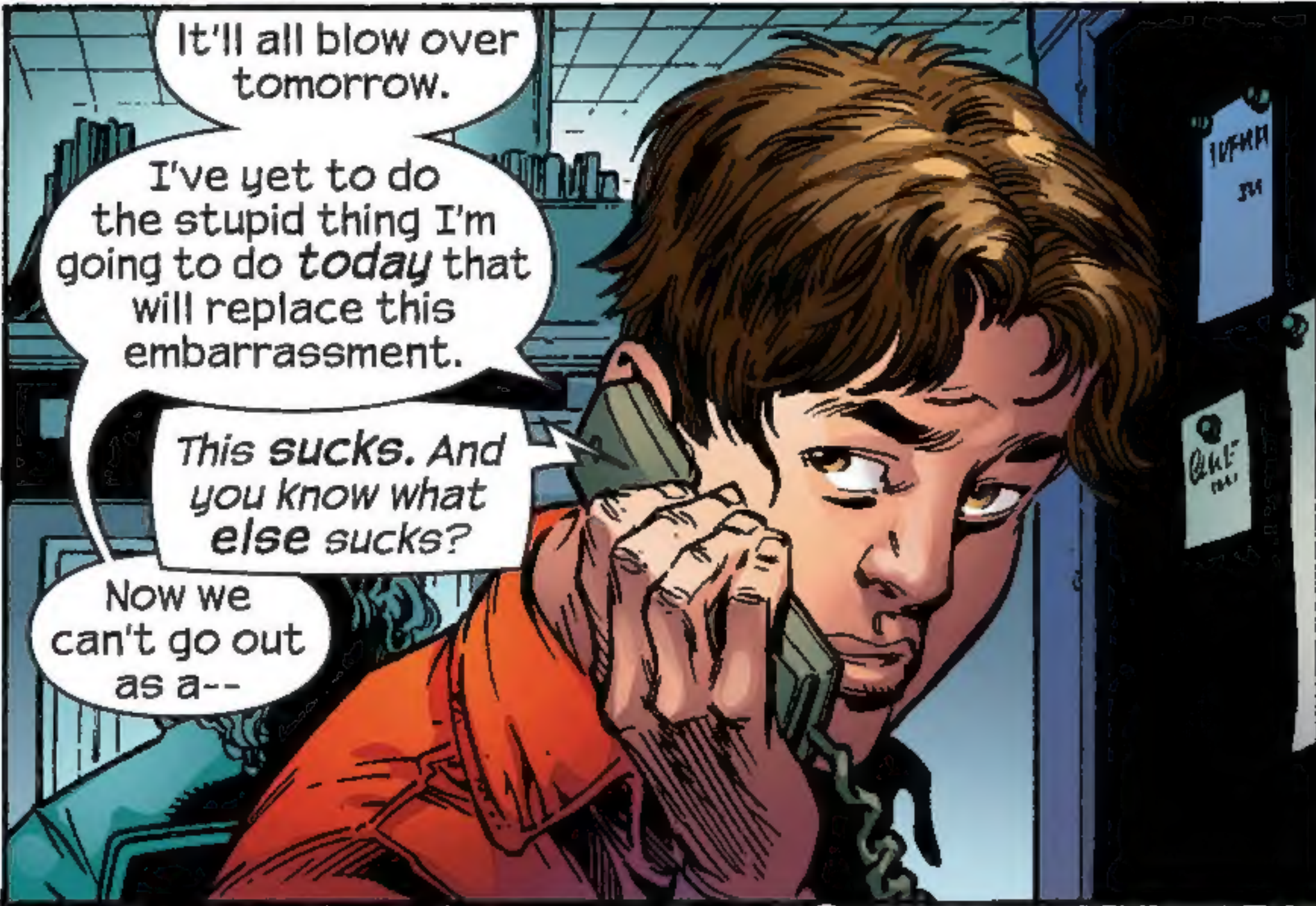
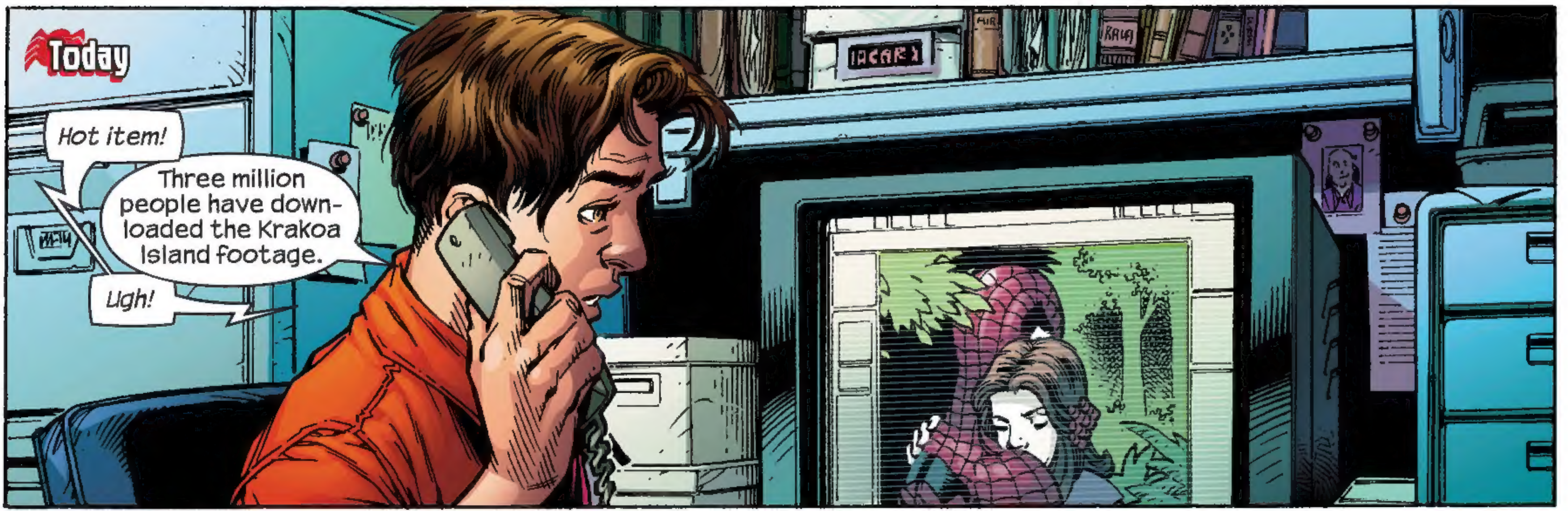
Jeez!



HYAAGGHHEE!











Ben Urich!
How does an almost-award-winning journalist hand me in a story on vampires?

Jonah, I'm reporting the facts as they were--

Vampires!??

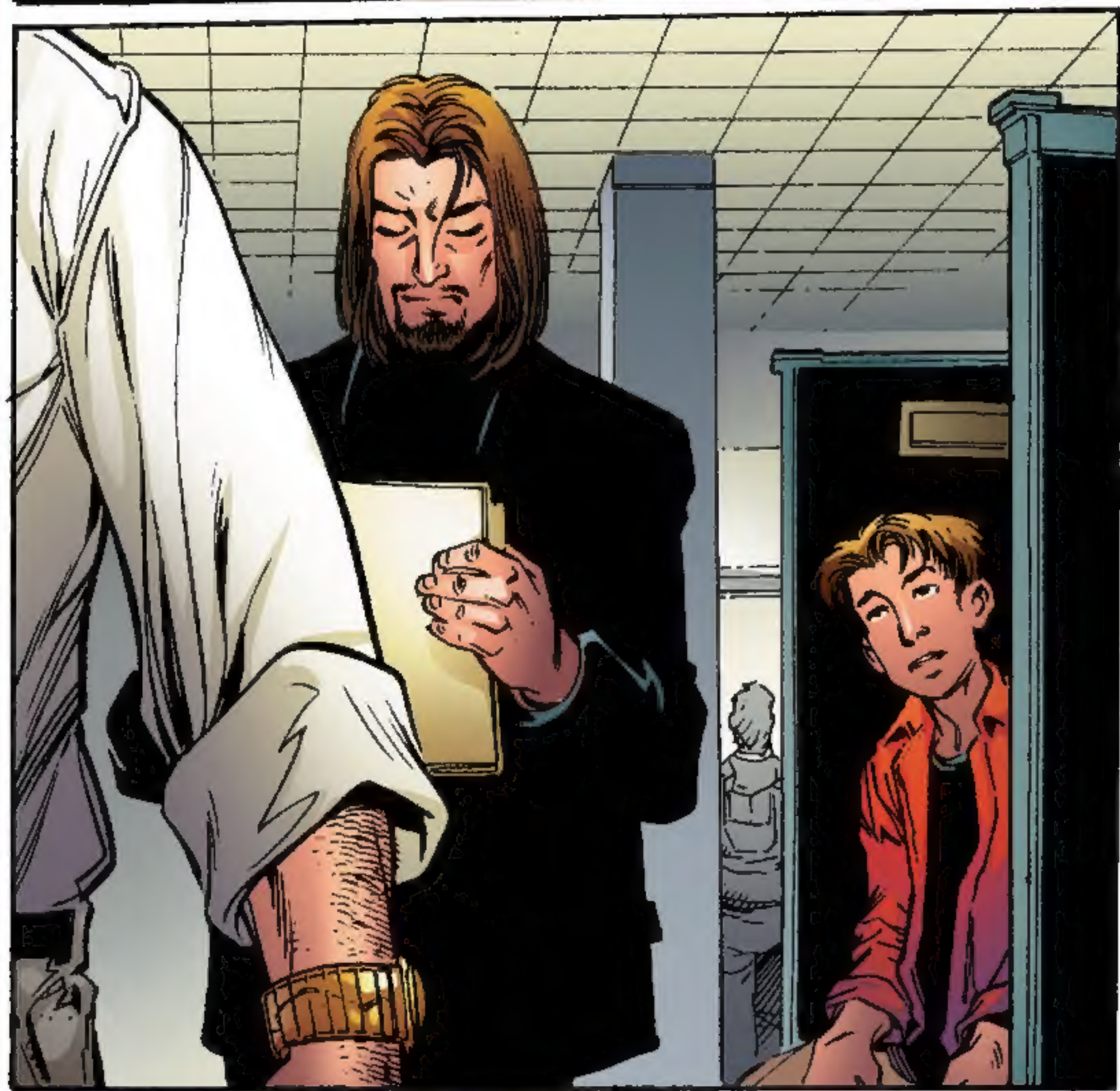


There's mutants, Spider-Men, Captain America frozen in a block of ice for decades, Tony Stark is a human tank--

--but **vampires** is too much for you?



I'm not printing this.



You really saw a vampire?



If I saw it myself- it would be a headline.

Exactly, it's flimsy.

Robbie, the girl *said* she was bit by a vampire.

It's flimsy.

Print media is dead anyhow.



Just find more. It's half a story.

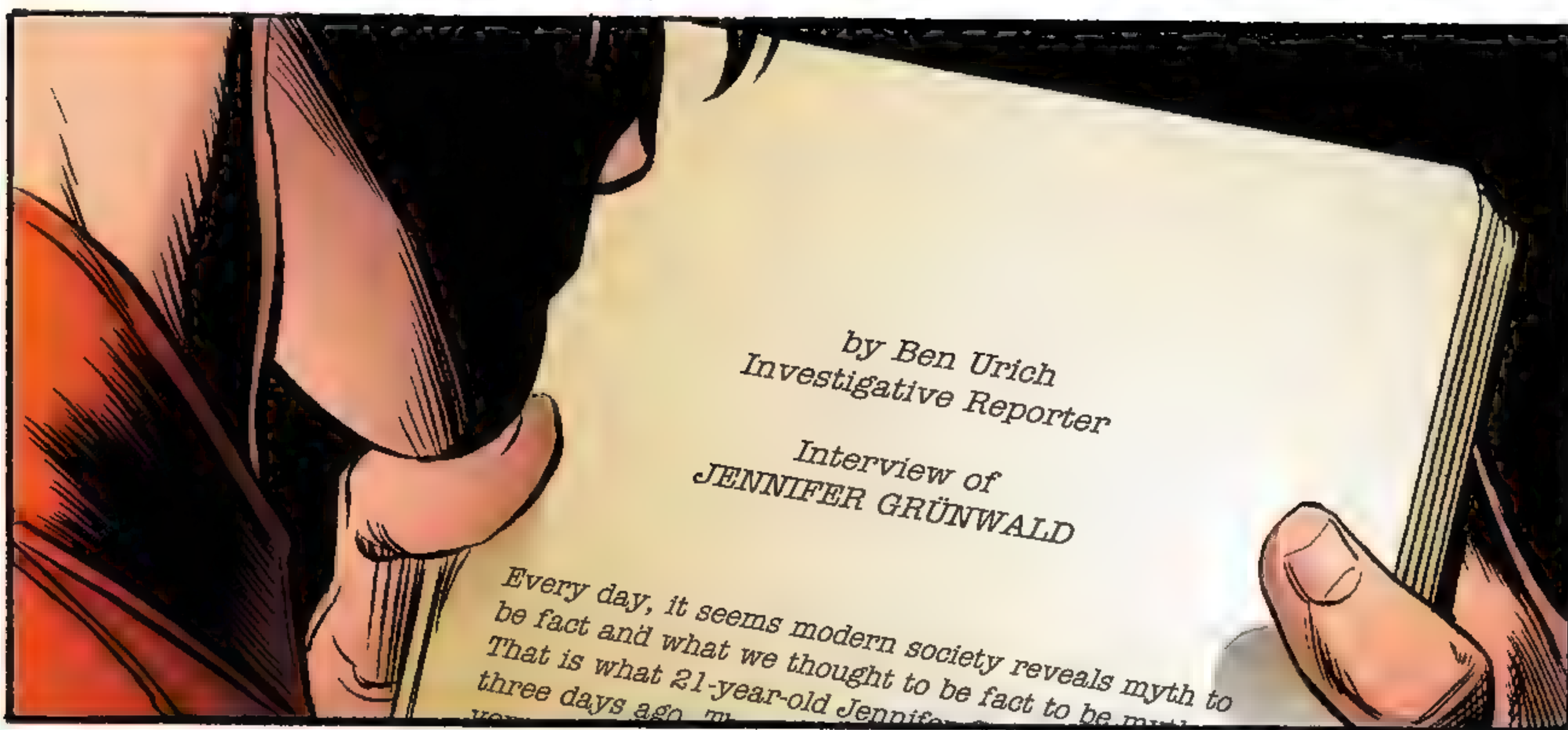
Oy.

Can I read it?



He's right.

It's crap.



by Ben Ulrich
Investigative Reporter
Interview of
JENNIFER GRÜNWARD

Every day, it seems modern society reveals myth to be fact and what we thought to be fact to be myth. That is what 21-year-old Jennifer Grünwald discovered three days ago.

Every day, it seems modern society reveals myth to be fact and what we thought to be fact to be myth.

That is what 21-year-old Jennifer Grünwald discovered three days ago.

That myth may very well be fact.

Jennifer works at the New York Public Library in the foreign literature department.

She is fluent in French and Spanish.



She is used to communicating with people from all over the world.

The man she met this morning was at first nothing special.

Just another American immigrant who may be hitting on her in a language she doesn't understand.

The feeling, Jennifer recalls, that followed was a different story.

She recalls a hazy "drug-like" feeling washing over her.

The stranger's voice now in her head. In English.

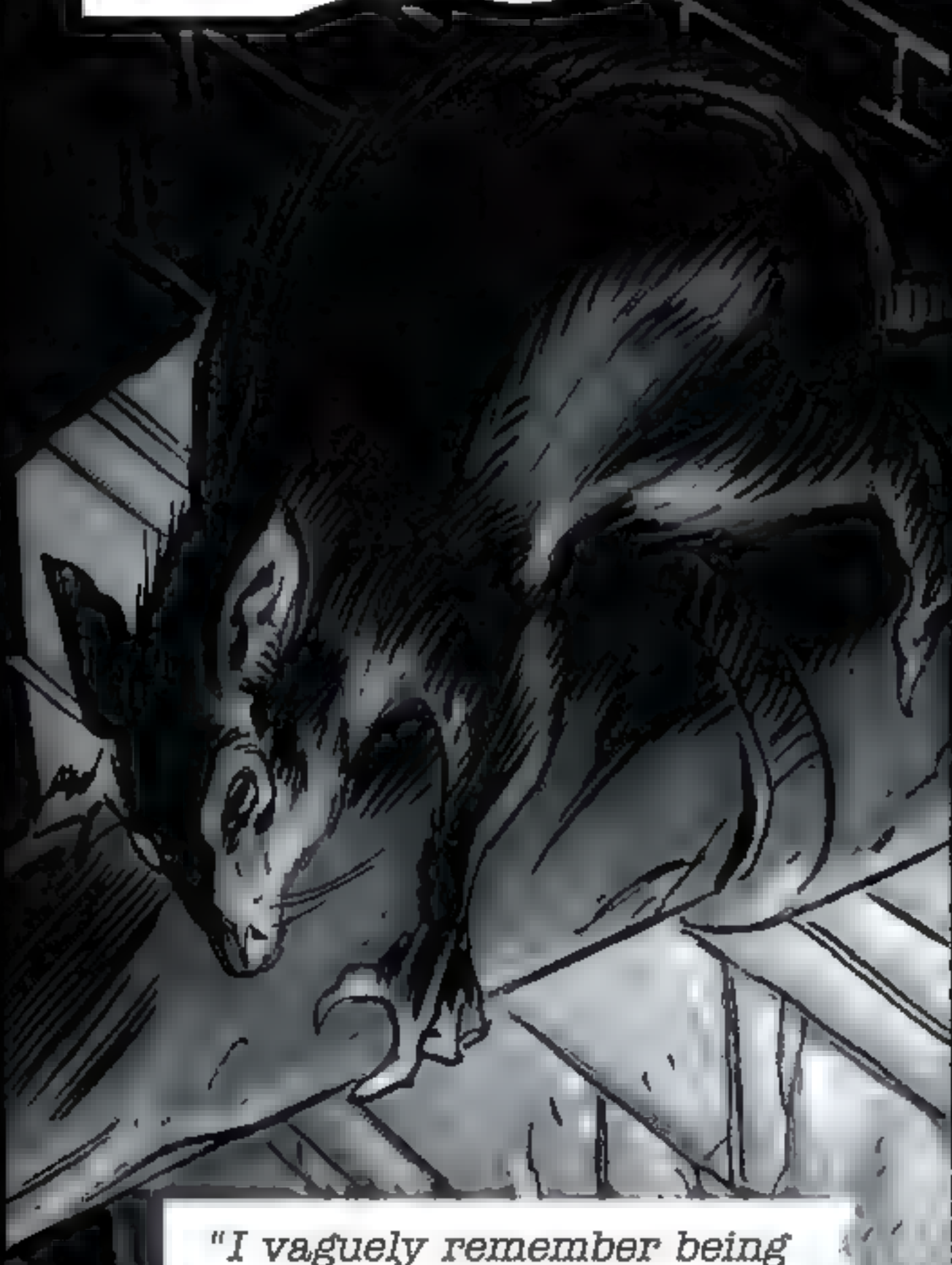
"And I did."



"I can't remember exactly what he said other than that I was overwhelmed with a feeling to follow him outside."



"I thought maybe I was drugged or something, but I wasn't. I hadn't had a drink or even lunch yet.



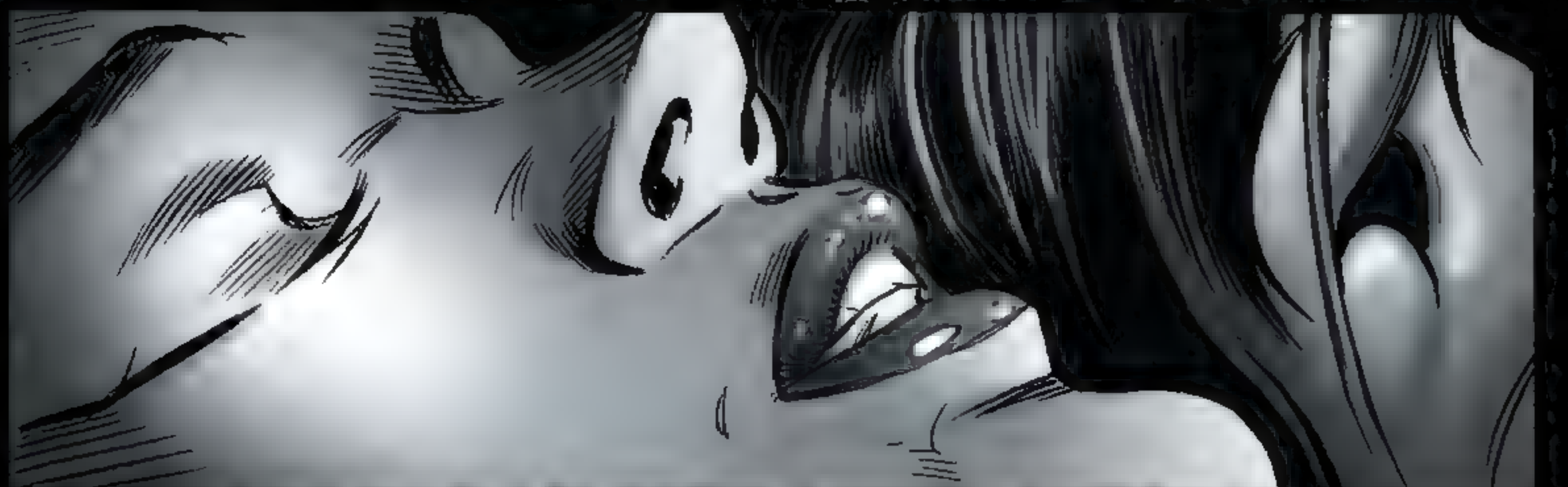
"I vaguely remember being in the back alley across the street from the library.



"I remember him whispering in my ear but I don't remember what he said.



"And I don't- I don't remember anything after that."



Jennifer woke up that night, in her own bed in her own home, confused and disoriented.



Jennifer, this is the man I was telling you about. He's from the *Daily Bugle*.

He wants to hear what happened to you.



She had not been violated in any way, except for the marks on her neck.



Two small circular marks on the bottom of the left side of her neck.

Wounds that were a day old, already healed as if they happened weeks ago.



Scared to return to work, scared to go to the police, Jennifer realizes that what she thinks happened to her makes her a target for ridicule.

Even though there is physical evidence to support her claims, she's scared.

I know it sounds insane and I don't know exactly what happened to me.

It may just have been a maniac playing a creepy dress-up fantasy fetish thing.

But maybe it was... a vampire.



But what's to say there are no vampires.

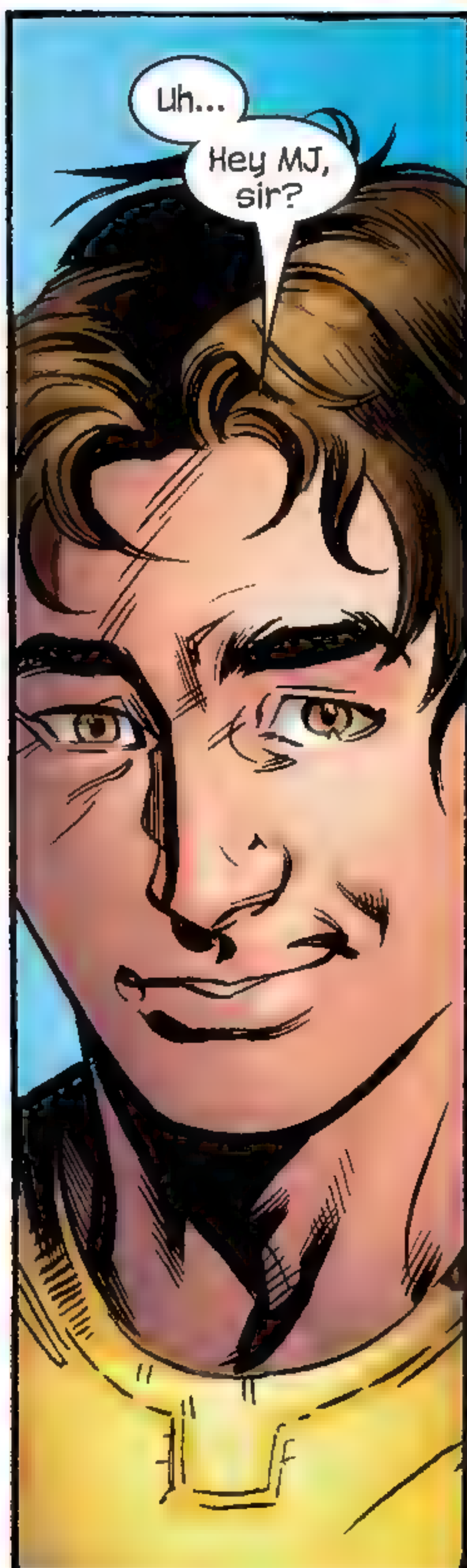
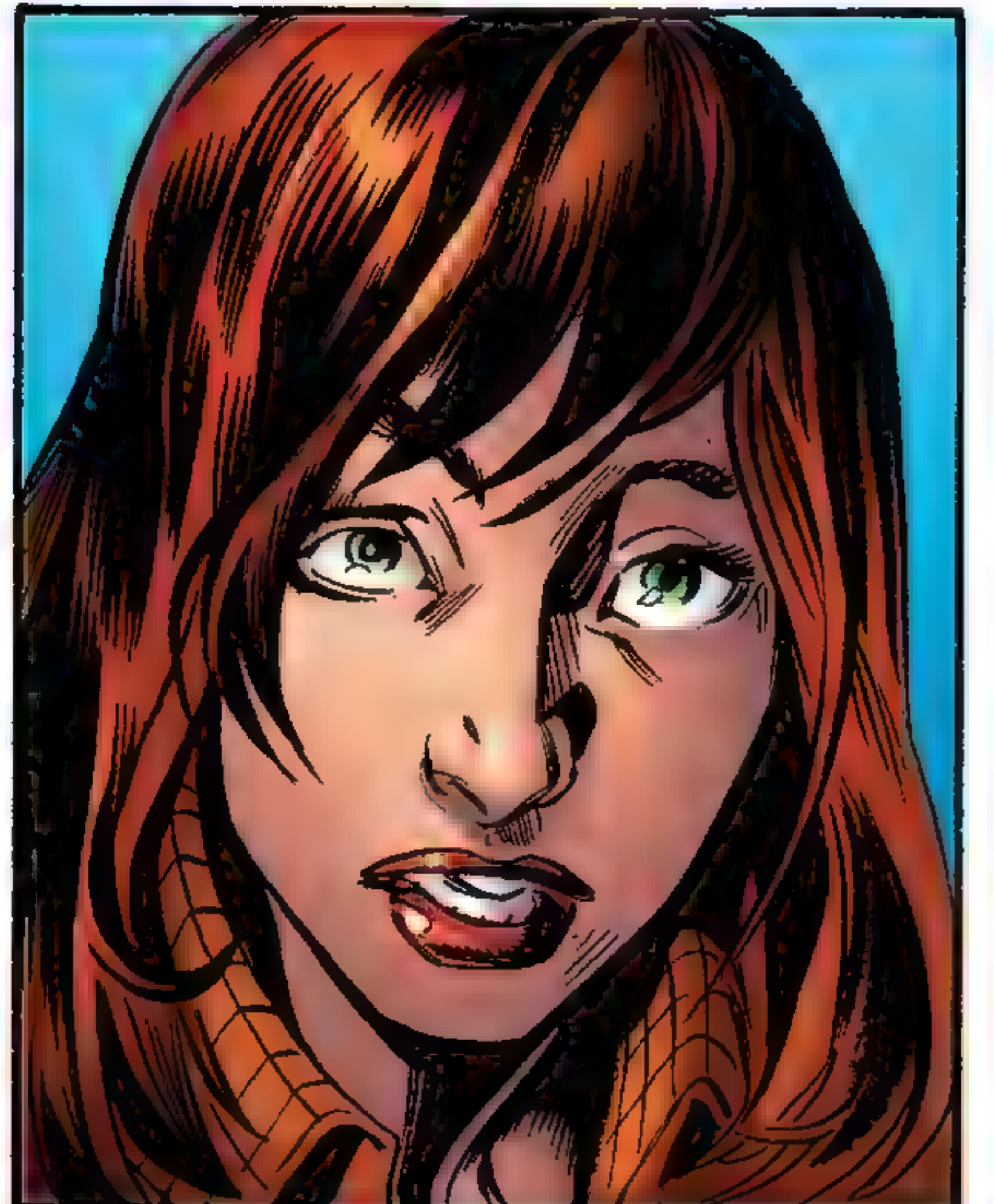
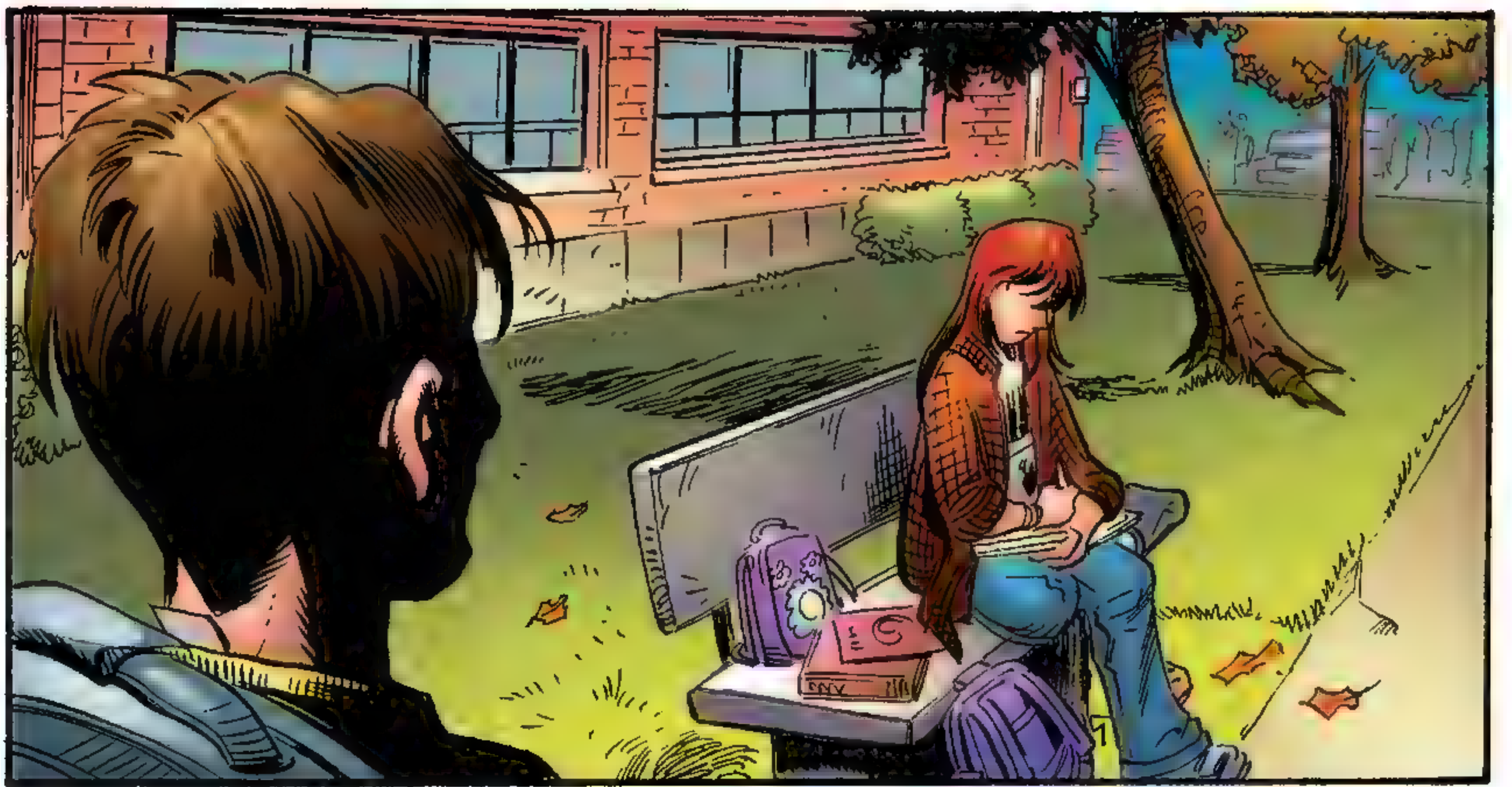
There's Spider-Men and mutants with angel wings.

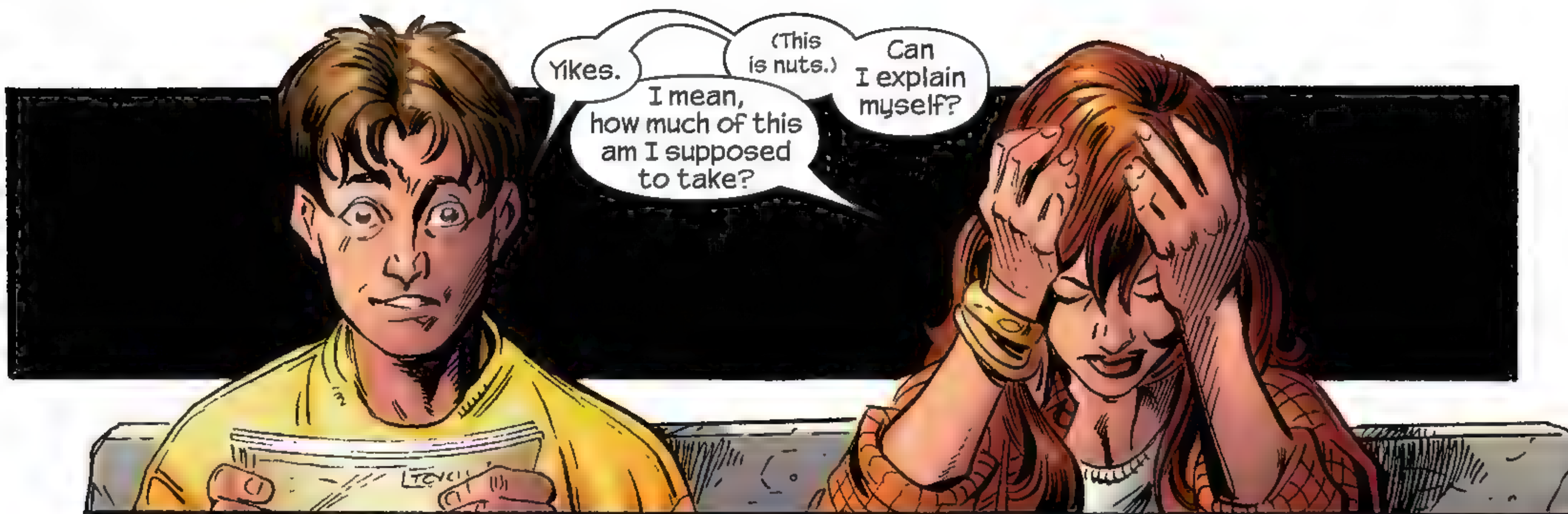
Maybe vampires are real, too.



Something has happened to me.







Yikes.

I mean, how much of this am I supposed to take?

(This is nuts.)

Can I explain myself?



You can explain why you so badly had to break up with me because "no one is safe" with you because your life as Spider-Man dooms you to eternal loneliness.

Yet two weeks later you're dating gangly-girl.



I can explain it.

Great.

MJ, she has mutant powers.

She can defend herself.

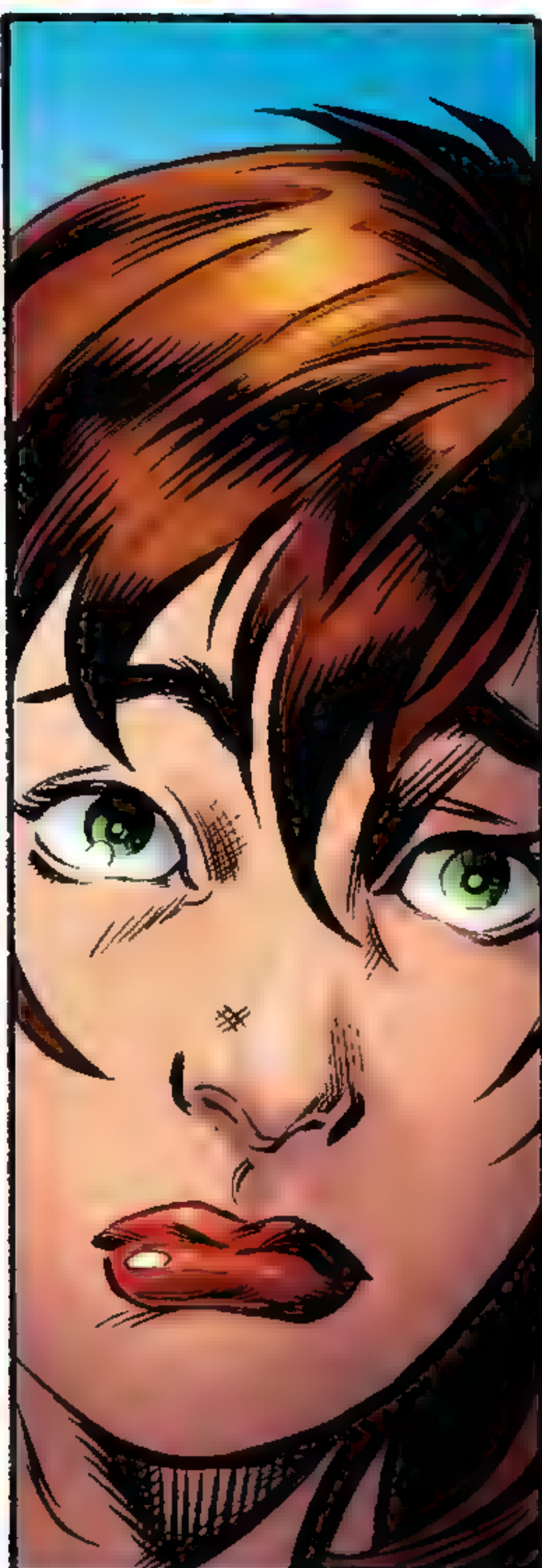
In fact, she has the power to phase through things.



Which means...?



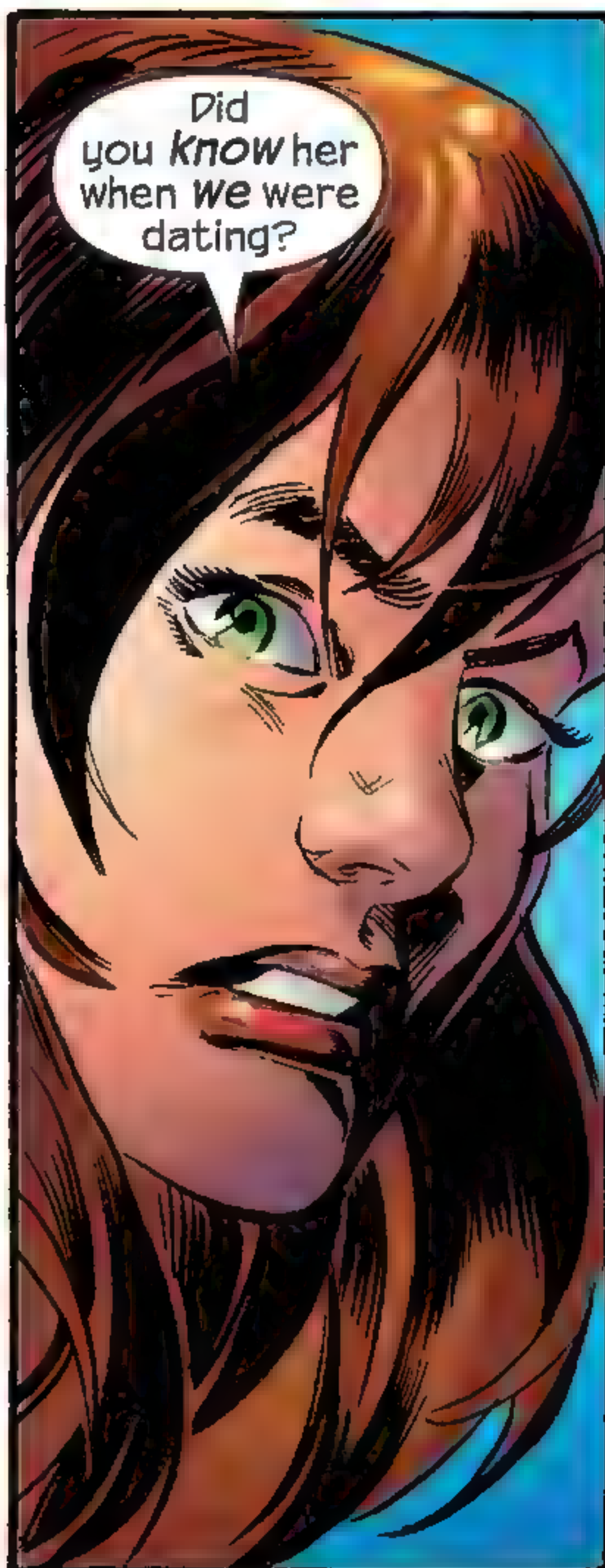
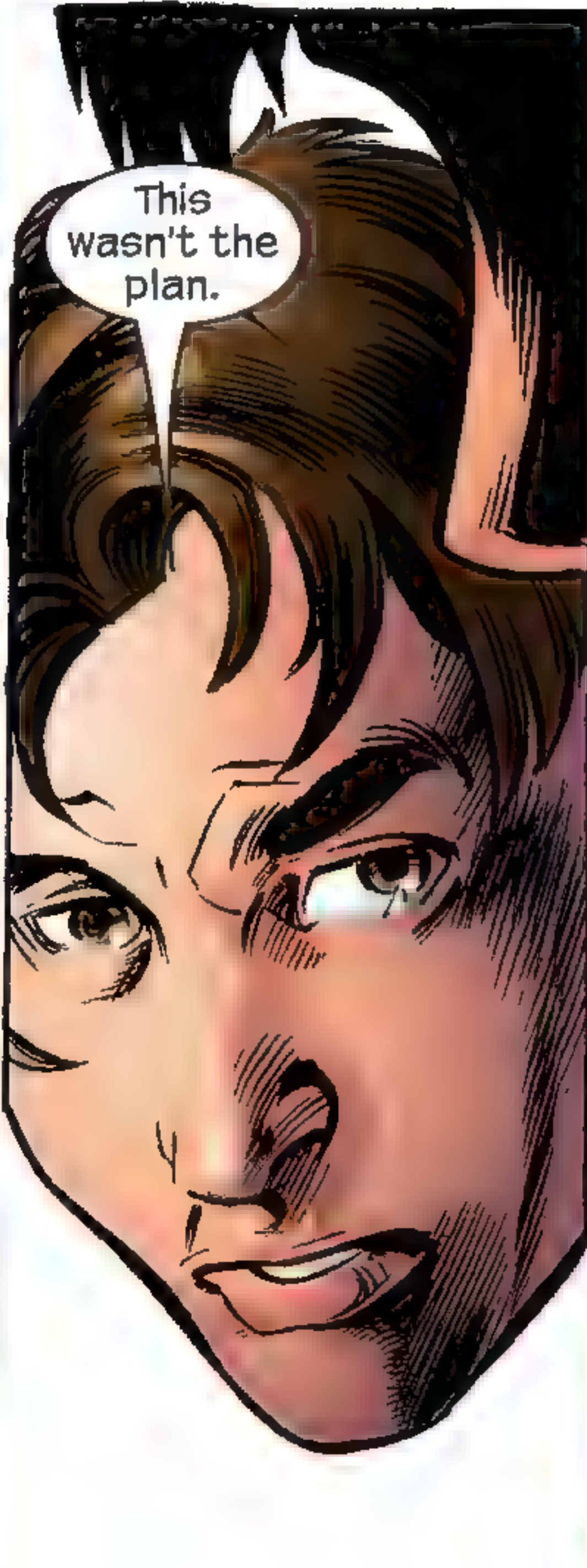
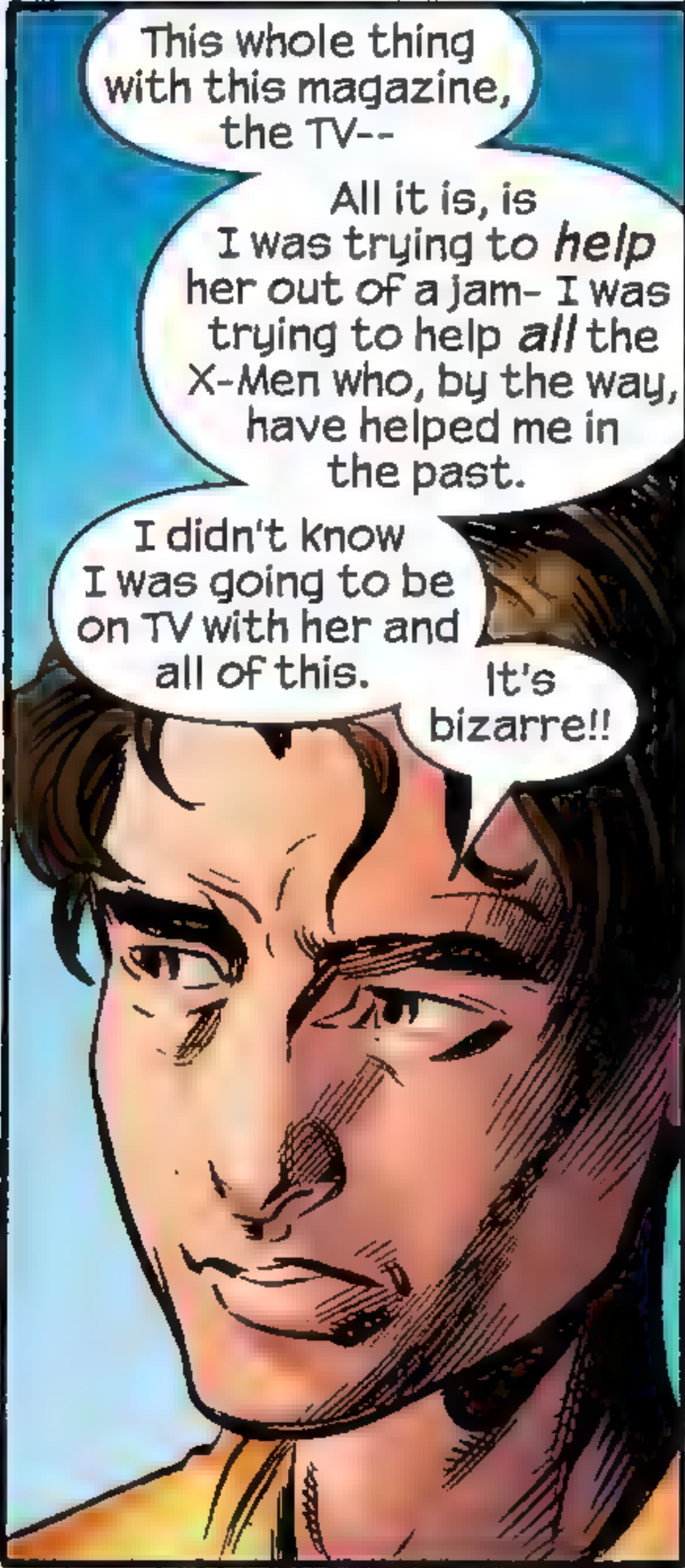
She can't get hurt.



Well, then she's *perfect* for you.

MJ.

Do you love her?





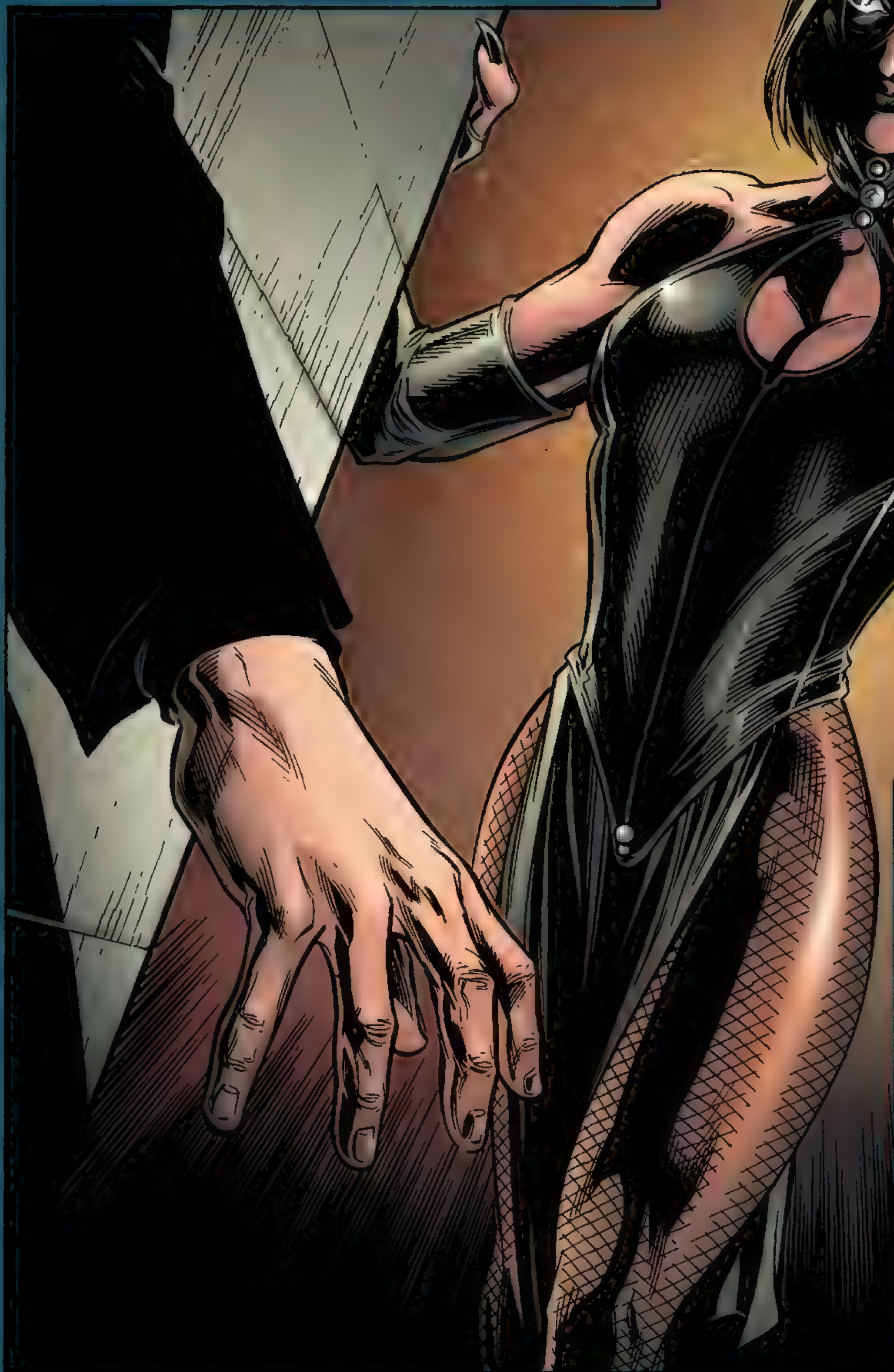
You ready to see me making out with one of the guys on the team? You ready to see me all over some guy?

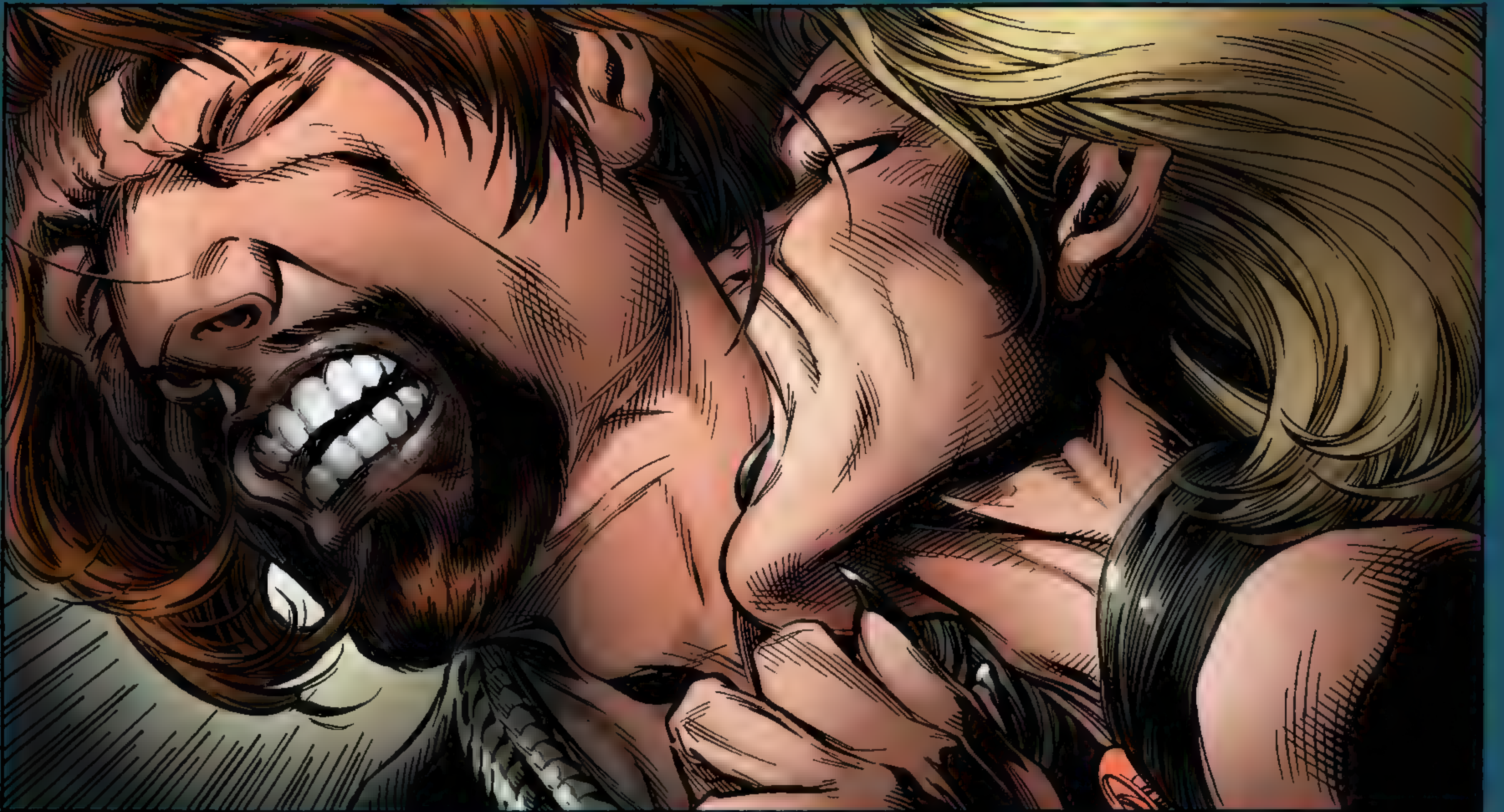
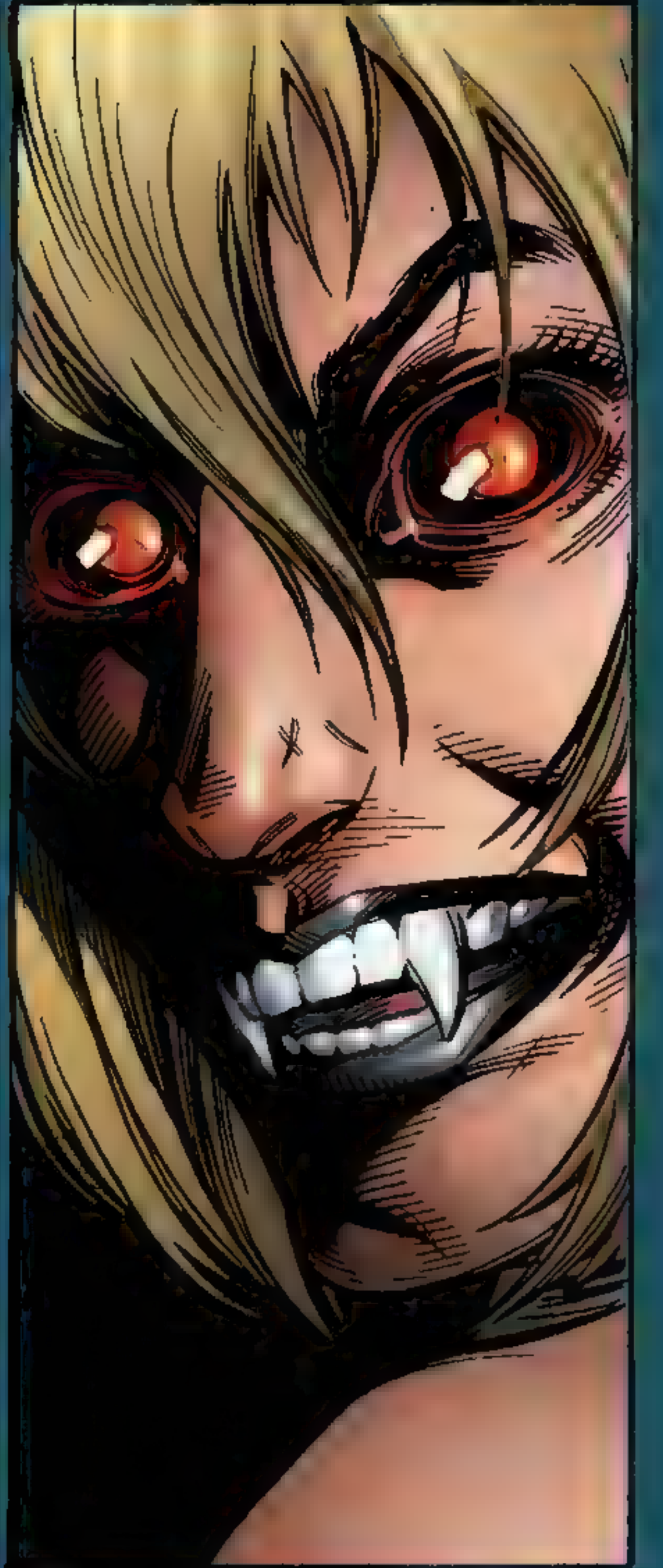
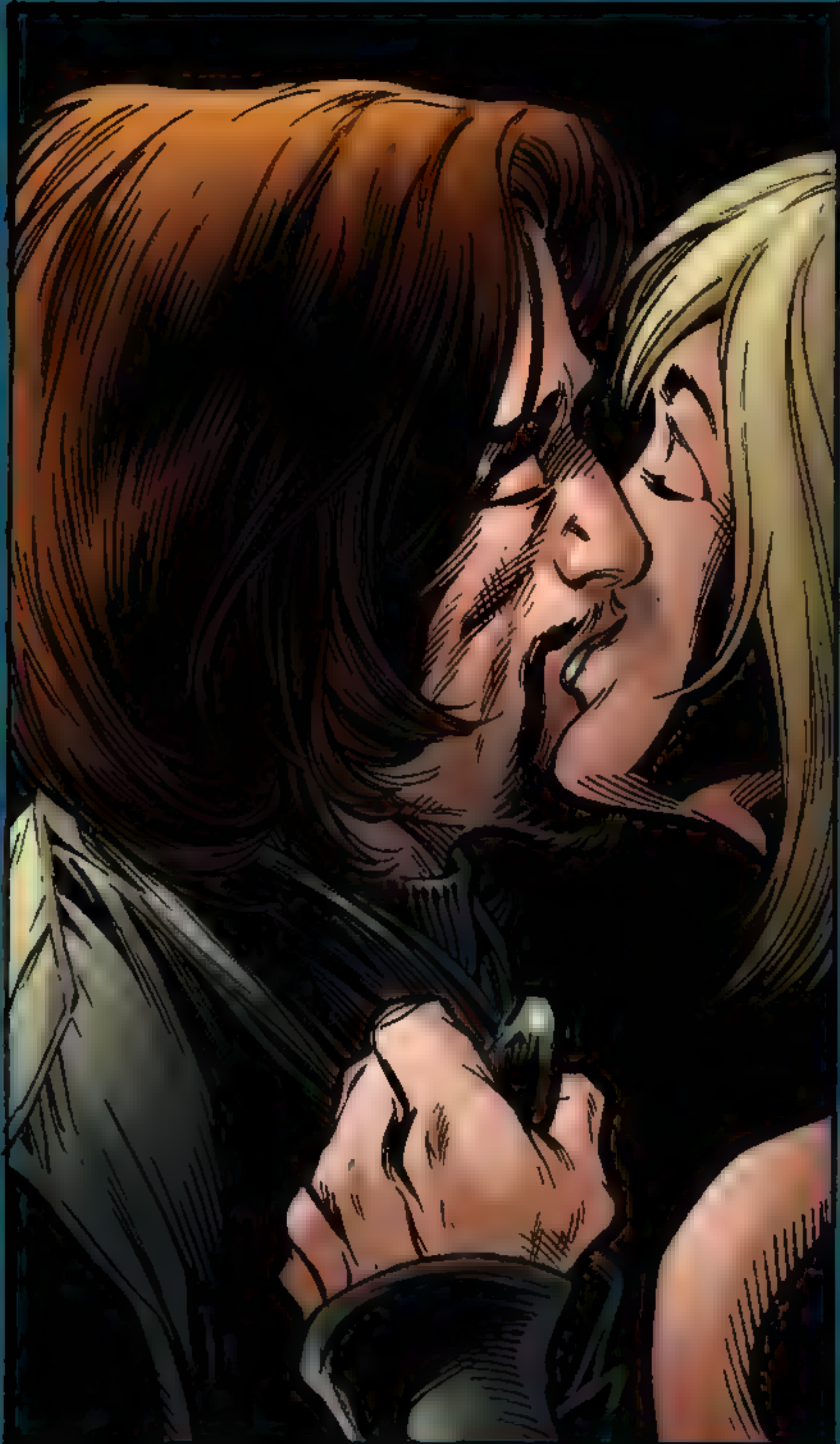
Is that what you *really* want?? When you close your eyes and try to imagine a happy life for yourself is *that* what you see??

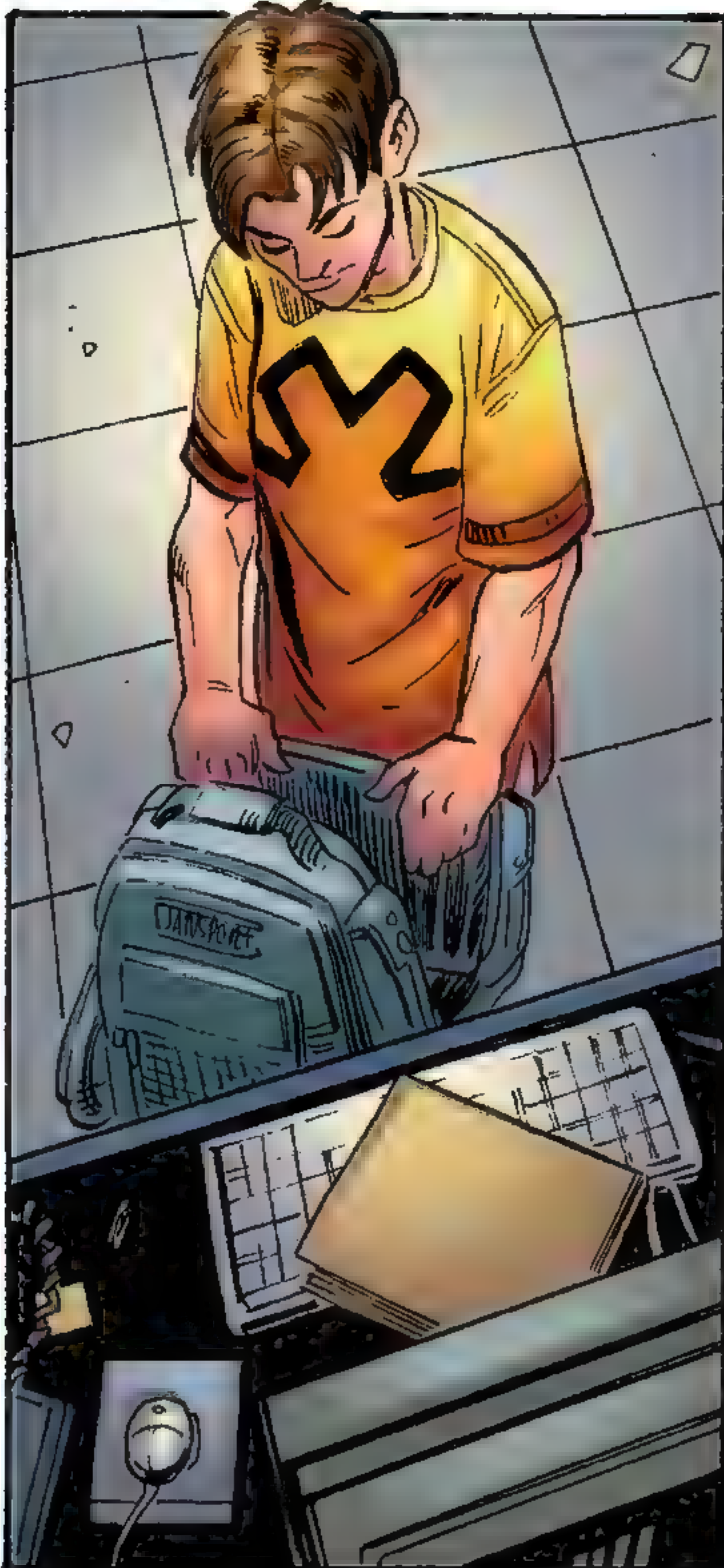
You're *not* my best friend.

I'm mad at you. I don't want to talk to you. I hate this.











This is so my fault.

I wanted to tell Mister Ulrich, "Dude, I *saw* a vampire once."

And he says: "When did you see a vampire?"

And I'd say: "When I was swinging around as Spider-Man. Oops. But don't tell anyone that part."



I was dying to tell him, just to tell him he was on the right track.

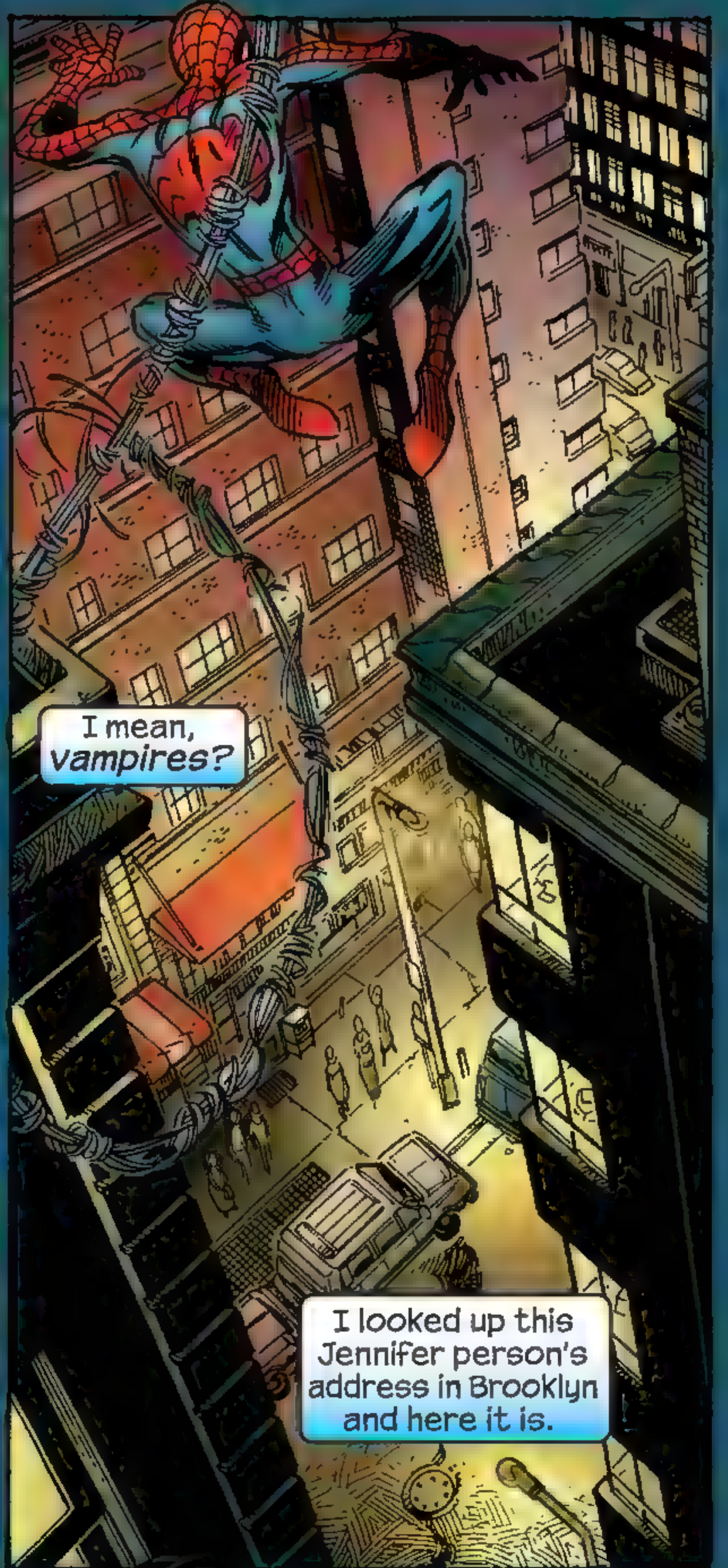
Ben Ulrich's the real deal.

I didn't think he'd end up missing.

And quite frankly I wasn't even sure I saw what I saw.

It was months ago and it was crazy.

But *every* day's been *some* kind of crazy.



I mean, *vampires*?

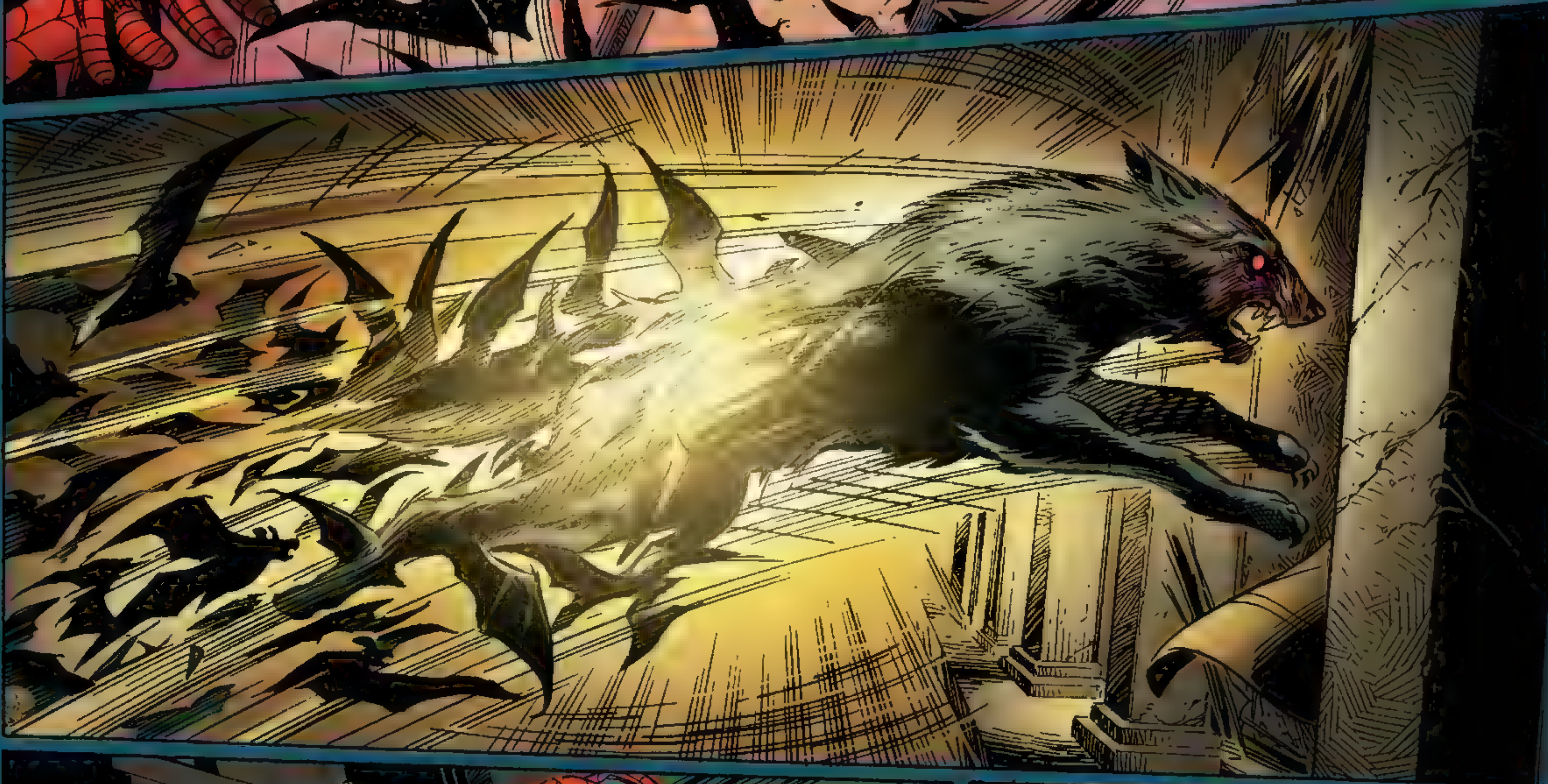
I looked up this Jennifer person's address in Brooklyn and here it is.



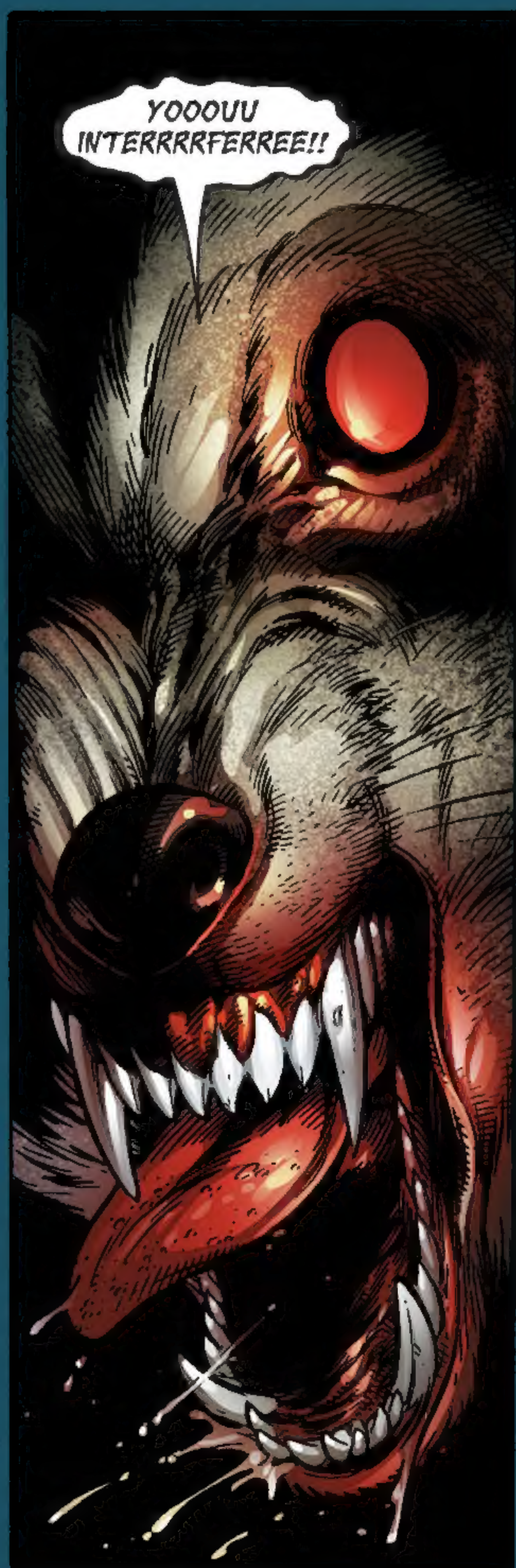
It's this building and it's apartment 6C but from the outside it's hard to tell which one is 6C.



I have no idea which window it could--





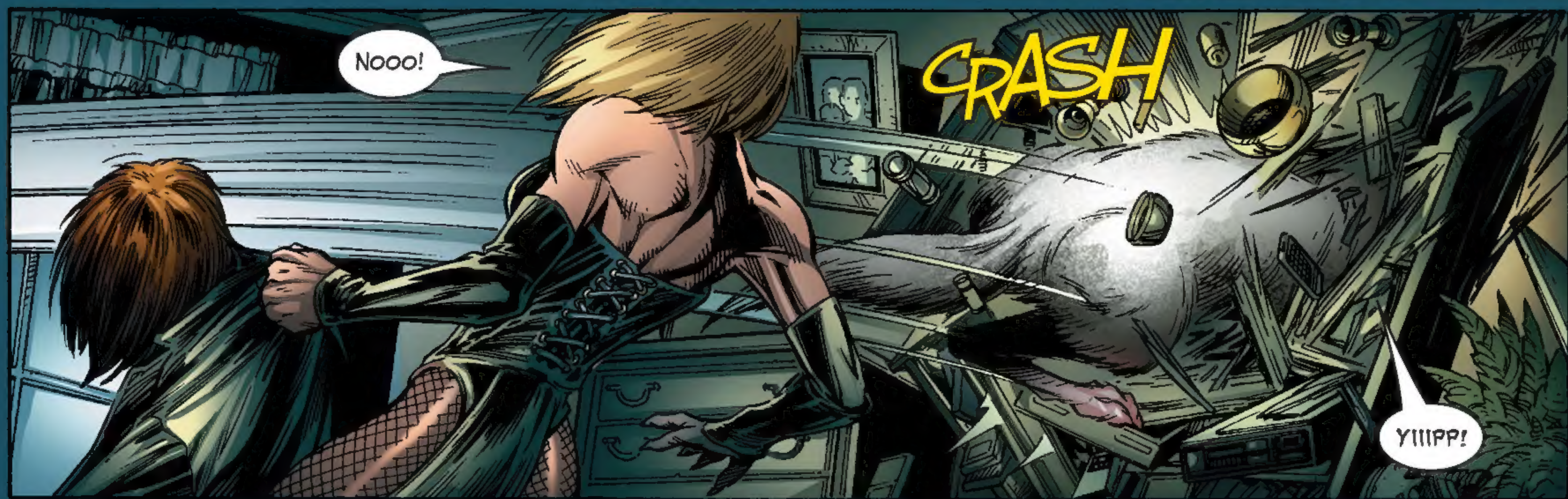


YOOOUU
INTERRRRFERREE!!



HAII!

FUMP



Nooo!

CRASH

YIIIPP!



RRRRDIEE!

Get
out of here,
boy!



You cannot win this fight.



SON OF

ULTRAMAN